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this city, is as follows: There were 451 deaths during the above-mentioned fortnight. Of these, 17 were from smallpox, 15 from diphtheria, 13 from scarlet fever, 13 from measles, and 6 from typhoid fever. As I have already reported, the scarlet fever epidemic is very mild; there were only 15 scarlet fever deaths. This number does not represent 1 per 500 of the existing scarlet fever cases. There are a great many cases of nephritis, which are due to scarlet fever cases. There are also many cases of influenza, but their number is not large enough to be able to say that an influenza epidemic exists. The influenza cases are also very light.

At the sitting of the international sanitary commission of the 24th of last November, the English sanitary commissioner invited the above-mentioned commission to allow the entrance of a pack of old clothes forwarded from England to a lady here in order to distribute them to the victims of the last massacres. The above-mentioned pack has been stopped at the custom house on account of a decision of the international sanitary commission issued when cholera was raging in Austria. According to this decision old clothes were not allowed to enter Constantinople. At the invitation of the English sanitary commissioner, the undersigned, United States sanitary representative, has proposed to decide that old clothes forwarded from England or any other place should be allowed to enter the city after they have been disinfected in the disinfecting furnace.

I have been very much surprised indeed to see that, in consequence of the United States commissioner's proposition, a discussion took place during which many opinions were expressed in favor of or against the disinfection. Among the different arguments the English sanitary commissioner used, in order to allow the entrance of the old clothes without being previously disinfected, was that the old clothes forwarded from America to the American Bible House here for the same purpose have not been stopped at the custom house nor disinfected. Therefore, the English commissioner adds, why should the English old clothes be disinfected? This discussion lasted more than one hour and as a consequence of it a vote took place in which it was shown that half of the members were in favor of my proposition and half against it. The president having himself a double vote has decided the question against the disinfection. The old clothes then will hereafter be imported without being previously disinfected. I report this fact in order to show how the different hygienic questions are treated in the international sanitary commission. I have the honor to forward to the Department a copy in French of a *tezkeré*, communicated to the international sanitary commission, referring to the proposition of the Russian sanitary representative to inspect the prisons of Constantinople. I forward also the communication of the French sanitary commissioner protesting against the way of thinking of the Ottoman government. I have also the honor to forward a copy of the regulations concerning the pilgrimage of 1897, and a copy of the new regulations concerning ships or passengers coming from places where bubonic plague exists.

SPIRIDION C. ZAVITZIANO.

STATISTICAL REPORTS.

CUBA—*Manzanillo*.—Two weeks ended November 30, 1896. Estimated population, 14,000. Total deaths, 49, including yellow fever, 1, and enteric fever, 5.

FRANCE—*Nantes*.—Month of November, 1896. Estimated popula-

tion, 125,757. Total deaths, 251, including enteric fever, 5, and diphtheria, 2.

GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales.*—The deaths registered in 33 great towns of England and Wales during the week ended December 5, correspond to an annual rate of 19.4 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 10,846,971. The highest rate was recorded in Swansea, viz, 28.0, and the lowest in West Ham, viz, 12.4 a thousand.

London.—One thousand six hundred and four deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 17; scarlet fever, 26; diphtheria, 60; whooping cough, 18; enteric fever, 9, and diarrhea and dysentery, 7. The deaths from all causes correspond to an annual rate of 18.9 a thousand. In greater London 2,082 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 17.6 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included 13 from diphtheria, 4 from measles, 11 from whooping cough, and 2 from scarlet fever.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended December 5 in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland was 26.3 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Newry, viz, 4.0, and the highest in Galway, viz, 30.2 a thousand. In Dublin and suburbs 198 deaths were registered, including scarlet fever, 4; enteric fever, 4; whooping cough, 7, and typhus fever, 1.

Scotland.—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended December 5 correspond to an annual rate of 14.3 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,518,347. The lowest mortality was recorded in Greenock, viz, 12.6, and the highest in Perth, viz, 23.9 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes, was 418, including scarlet fever, 4; diphtheria, 2; measles, 26, and whooping cough, 7.

WEST INDIES—*Guadeloupe.*—Two weeks ended November 13, 1896. Estimated population, 18,500. Total deaths 22. No deaths from contagious diseases.